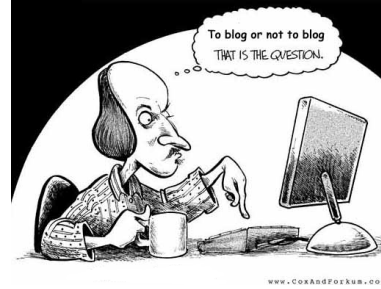


Developing Internal Blogs for Student Projects

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Communication in the 21st Century digital world involves skills that transcend the traditional written word or spoken language. It also entails technical skills using Web 2.0 tools in a global venue. Students are becoming keenly aware, through social networking sites and various online community centers, how to use the tools that provide them a platform for communication.

Typically, school district network filter systems prevent the use of these tools in the classroom. These sites are difficult to monitor making it impossible to screen all content. The approach has been to ban all online communication (social networks, blogs, and email) for the safety and protection of the students. But how do students learn to communicate properly, responsibly, ethically, and meaningfully in the digital world in which they live? How can schools constructively use these tools in a safe and secure system?

Norwich Public Schools now has a platform to incorporate blogging into a secure and monitored environment. Through a networked server located at Teachers' Memorial Middle School, teachers can now use blogging tools to enhance lessons and provide students with opportunities for learning and communicating in digital environments. This tool is available for all teachers within the district, but cannot be accessed past the walls of our internal network.

This workshop will provide the overview of the blog - an online journal that is created by an author and solicits comments and contributions from the global society - and in this case - the Norwich Public Schools learning community. Students can create their own blogs and role-play famous individuals. Lesson examples, such as: historical blogs by famous individuals with comments from appropriate peers; persuasive pieces that promote interaction and encourage a discussion; or a future President of the United States outlining a political platform.

For the teacher, an extension activity that can provide additional CEUs after this workshop is the creation of a lesson plan to incorporate blogging in the individual teacher's classroom setting. Details for this option will be discussed in the workshop.

You will learn:

- The features of a blog - an online journal - and how teachers can incorporate this tool in classroom settings
- Ways to monitor and techniques to follow in creating, managing, and expanding the blog
- Ethical use of computer technology and promoting that use to others

WHAT EXACTLY IS A BLOG, ANYWAY?

http://www.pbs.org/teachers/learning.now/2006/05/what_exactly_is_a_blog_anyway.html

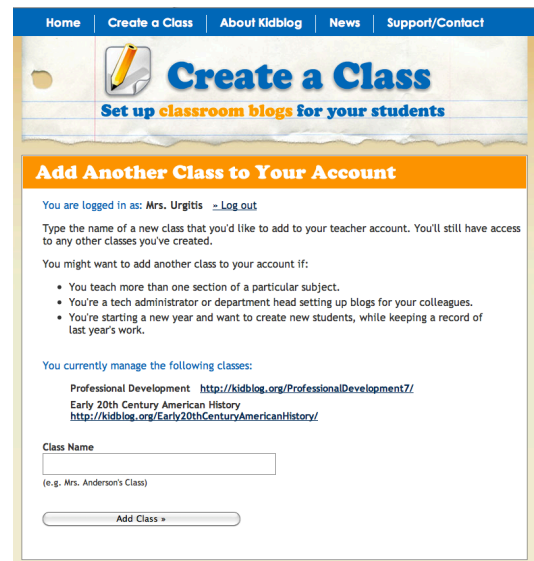
HOW TO USE BLOGS (IN THE CLASSROOM)

<http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/collection.jsp?id=370>



Kidblog's advanced privacy features put safety first:

- Teachers have administrative control over all student blogs and student accounts.
- Your students' blogs are private by default - viewable only by classmates and the teacher.
- For "semi-public" blogs, set up guest (e.g. parent) accounts that require a password to view students' posts/comments.
- Comment privacy settings block unsolicited comments from outside sources.
- Kidblog does not collect any personal information from teachers or students.
- No advertising of any kind.
- Simple login menus allow students to select their name from a list of students in the class, eliminating the need to memorize usernames.
- Clutter-free design means your students will spend less time fussing with widgets/options and more time publishing.
- Central blog directory and simple navigation links make it easy for students to find classmates' blogs.



Demo Class

Go to Class Blog

Demo Class

Logged in as: DemoTeacher | Log Out

Dashboard

Write New Post

Review Posts

Comments

Users

Settings

Users

Add Users to this Class

Message Groups

Create a New Class

Search Users

Users in this Class

Administrator (1) | Student (6)

Bulk Actions

Apply

Change role to:

Change

Screen Name	Username/Kidblog ID	Posts	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> DemoTeacher	DemoTeacher	3	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Student A	StudentA3	2	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Student B	StudentB2	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> Student C	StudentC2	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Student D	StudentD	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Student E	StudentE	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Student F	StudentF	0	0

Demo Class

Go to Class Blog

Demo Class

Logged in as: DemoTeacher | Log Out

Dashboard

Write New Post

Review Posts

Comments

Users

Settings

Review Comments

All Comments

Awaiting Approval (2) | Approved (1) | Trash (0)

Public/Private

Search Comments

Bulk Actions

Apply

All Authors

Filter

Comment

☐ I like the book, too.
5 mins ago by Student B on Chapter 1

☐ That is a great summary, thank you.
11 mins ago by Student B on Chapter 2

☐ This is a sample comment. To edit or delete a comment, log in to your class control panel. You'll be able to review comments there. You can also edit/delete directly at the original post.
3 hours ago by DemoTeacher on Welcome to Kidblog.org!

Bulk Actions

Apply

Demo Class

Go to Class Blog

Demo Class

Logged in as: DemoTeacher | Log Out

Dashboard

Write New Post

Review Posts

Comments

Users

Settings

Recent Activity

View All Classes

Create a New Class

Class Statistics

Posts

Comments

Published Posts

Pending Posts

Drafts

Theme Kidblog Blue

Change Theme

Storage Space

Manage Files

100MB Available

0MB (0%) Used

Recent Comments

Comments RSS

From Student B on Chapter 1 (pending)
I like the book, too.

From Student B on Chapter 2 (pending)
That is a great summary, thank you.

From DemoTeacher on Welcome to Kidblog.org!
This is a sample comment. To edit or delete a comment, log in to your class control panel. You'll ...

View all

Recently Published Posts

Posts RSS

Welcome to Kidblog.org!
by DemoTeacher - 3 hours ago

New Characters
by Student B - 7 mins ago

Chapter 2
by Student A - 11 mins ago

Chapter 1
by Student A - 11 mins ago

New Blogpost!
by DemoTeacher - 2 hours ago

New Blog!
by DemoTeacher - 3 hours ago

View all

Demo Class

Go to Class Blog

Demo Class

Logged in as: DemoTeacher | Log Out

Dashboard

Write New Post

Review Posts

Comments

Users

Settings

Add New Post

Add media:

Visual

HTML

Path: p

Word count: 0

Discussion (Applies to this post only)

☒ Allow Comments.

Publishing Options

Save as Draft

Preview

Status: Draft Edit

Publish

Demo Class

Go to Class Blogs

Demo Class

Dashboard

Write New Post

Review Posts

Comments

Users

Settings

Add New User

Back to List of Students/Users

Use this form to create new users and add them to your Kidblog class(es).
Or add existing users from other classes.
Or bulk-create new users by uploading a "CSV" file.

Username

Password

Role

Student

Class Membership

☒ Demo Class

Hide

Select All

De-select All

☐ New Class

☐ Blue Class

Add User

Demo Class

Go to Class Blog

Demo Class

Logged in as: DemoTeacher | Log Out

Dashboard

Write New Post

Review Posts

Comments

Users

Settings

General Settings

Class Name

Demo Class

Timezone

UTC -6

Current time: 3:36 AM - March 26, 2018

Class Theme

Kidblog Blue

View Other Themes (Gave changes first)

XML-RPC

☐ Enable XML-RPC (required for publishing via iPhone)

Save Changes

Privacy Settings

Posts

Who may read students' posts?

☐ All visitors (no password required)

☐ Class members and logged-in guests

☒ Class members only

☐ Teacher only

Post Approval:

☐ Teacher must approve posts before they appear